

**Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council Meeting**  
**Sheridan County EMS Bldg, Hoxie, Kansas**  
**August 14, 2006**

Council Chair Debbie Hays called the August 14, 2006 meeting of the Northwest Kansas Regional Homeland Security Council to order at 10:00. Introductions were made.

Kyle Bunting and Bob Crapser were present from the Communication Assessment Team (CAT), Kansas Division of Emergency Management. The Adjutant General has tasked them with the Kansas Emergency Communication Assessment to be completed to determine the current interoperability capacity of each emergency dispatch center in the state. The purpose is to discover where we are today and where we need to be to establish true interoperability state-wide. A cover letter was sent to each Kansas Homeland Security Regional Coordinator with a courtesy copy to each county sheriff in the region. An assessment form went to all dispatch centers for completion. Each county Emergency Manager and Sheriff will be visited and information confirmed. Data from all departments is valuable. Dead spot data will be compiled and GPS readings taken at those spots. The end product will be the creation of a CD containing a synopsis report. This report will go to the regional coordinators and the Adjutant General. The goal is to spend approximately two months in each region and have the assessment completed within a one year period. A comment was made information to and from the state/local entity needs to be communicated both directions so funds are not spent unnecessarily on duplicate projects.

The minutes of the July 25, 2006 meeting were presented as emailed previously. Corrections were called for. Gary Rogers questioned the wording of the statement "10% of the SHSP must go to EMS". Change was made to read "10% of the SHSP must benefit EMS". Pappy Lies moved to approve with correction. Keith Haberer seconded. Motion passed.

Jacque Boultinghouse announced dispatch training to be held October 28, 2006 at the Sheridan County EMS Building. All region dispatchers are invited. Crissy Conger will send a teletype with further information, including costs and agenda, to each dispatch center.

Gary Rogers announced the KEMA Conference September 13, 14, and 15, 2006 in Hays, KS. There is excellent training offered and emergency managers are urged to take advantage of the sessions, especially as they are offered in this region.

The grants committee was composed of Steve Hirsch, Bob McLemore, Keith Haberer, Gary Rogers, Pappy Lies, and Deb Kaufman. Copies of the memorandum regarding grant committee recommendations were circulated. Steve Hirsch presented the recommendations for Council consideration. Only projects submitted by the deadline were considered. The grant committee considered first how each project would impact all of the 18 counties. Secondly, taken as a whole, the projects should be interdisciplinary in scope. And of third major concern was the extended cost burden of the project to the region if grant funds were no longer available. Project #1: MOCOM; A project to provide a common mutual aid radio channel for Northwest (18 counties) region emergency personnel as an interoperable radio frequency. The approximate funding for this project is \$216,206.00. Project #2: Incident Management Team formation, training, and equipment at funding level \$100,000.00. Project #3: Regional Technical Rescue Response Team funded at level \$92,000.00. For the first round, it was felt a limited number of projects would be more manageable. As funding is projected costs, it may be necessary make minor adjustments in funding at a later date.

Discussion was held on all projects proposed. The MOCOM/CAT assessment project was questioned regarding possible conflict or duplication with any projects the state may have on-going. Southwest Kansas is also looking at MOCOM. The VHF channel may be used for all disciplines and is more cost effective than the 800 MHz in NW Kansas. The project is a starting point that quickly allows for interoperability across county lines. It would not be a primary operating channel but rather a mutual aid frequency. Ellis County and Russell County have the 800 MHz system available in certain departments but it is not completely interoperability. Russell County also has the AC 1000 so has connecting capability.

Regional Rescue technical equipment needs were discussed. The capability has to exist for self-sufficiency in case light/power is not present at scene. Vehicle procurement and trailer locations were discussed as was equipment upkeep and maintenance. Training is technically intensive. This project would also allow for later date consideration of expanded training and placement of additional equipment throughout the region should more funds and regional personnel become available.

Incident Management Team: This proposal includes a uniform statewide equipment list, application, selection, and training of a type 4 team to assist local jurisdictions in time of crisis overwhelming local resources. Team members would have training in the IS 700, ICS 100, ICS 200, ICS 300, ICS 400, IS 800 and Command and General Staff training. Team members would need to be ready to deploy throughout the region at the request of local officials. Ideally, teams would include twenty individuals from a variety of disciplines per region.

Richard Schneider moved Project #1, MOCOM, be granted approval and funded at the requested amount. Mitch Miller seconded. Motion passed.

Chris Stegman moved Project #2, Incident Management Team proposal be developed and funded as presented. Richard Schneider seconded. Motion passed.

Keith Haberer moved Project #3 Regional Technical Rescue Response Team be funded as proposed. Pappy Lies provided second for motion. Motion met with opposition but passed by majority.

Ellis County was requested to provide a procurement policy for purchases within the projects. Kerry McCue will provide.

The Council was divided into three project workgroups to complete a proposal for funding, work plan, and budget detail for each of the three selected projects.

The Council will meet September 18, 2006 as needed and October 16, 2006. Both meetings are scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. at Sheridan County EMS.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Kaufman, Secretary

**These minutes are not yet approved.**